

U.S. more than \$1.5 trillion per year, a significant portion of which is paid for by the Medicare program. With an aging population, we can expect to see a continual rise of neurodegenerative diseases in the years to come.

Brain research is key to understanding underlying causes of these conditions. The scientific community has made great strides in recent years, but continued investment is needed. Postmortem brain tissue is an irreplaceable resource in neurological studies. However, communities of color and people experiencing poverty are underrepresented in these studies. Overcoming these disparities is critical to producing research results that have an equitable impact.

Brain donation is separate from the routine organ donation process. Educating the public on the distinctions can lead to increased donation that better reflects our communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
OLIVIA ACHENBACH ON HER  
OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT-  
TEND THE UNITED STATES  
NAVAL ACADEMY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2022*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Olivia Achenbach of Perrysburg, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Olivia's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2026. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Olivia brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2026. While attending Perrysburg High School in Perrysburg, Ohio, Olivia participated in student government, Environmental Club, and was a member of National Honor Society. Throughout high school, Olivia was involved with soccer, powderpuff football, and earned her varsity letter in basketball. I am confident that Olivia will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Olivia Achenbach on her offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Olivia will excel during her career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

SUPPORTING MOLDOVA

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2022*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as the civilized world has been unintentionally unified in opposition to Putin conducting mass murder in Ukraine, Putin has unwittingly unified Republicans and Democrats in America. A clear example is Republican support of an op-ed from the Democrat Washington Post by Josh Rogin "West can't afford to neglect Moldova, because Putin won't" being the lead Opinion April 24th in The State paper of Columbia, South Carolina:

WEST CAN'T AFFORD

As the United States and Europe continue to scramble to help Ukraine defend its territory, preserve its democracy and save its economy, they should keep in mind that Ukraine is not the only country in the region suffering due to Russian President Vladimir Putin's aggression. Next door, the small country of Moldova is appealing to the West for urgent help and long-term partnership. If we turn away from Moldova, again, we will push it into Putin's arms.

"The Russian military aggression in Ukraine is making every single person in Europe feel less secure and is having a negative impact on every single person in Europe," Moldova's foreign minister, Nicu Popescu, told me in an interview last week in Washington. "And of course, this impact is more negative on Moldova, because Moldova is right there."

Popescu's official title is Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, which should tell us something. The new government in Moldova, one of the region's poorest countries, is trying to break a longrunning pattern of political dysfunction, systemic corruption and malign influence coming from Moscow. The December 2020 landslide election of Moldova's first outright pro-Western president, the Harvard-educated former World Bank economist Maia Sandu, presents the best chance yet to move Moldova firmly into the Western camp.

The Moldovan government has always tried to balance its relationships, for understandable reasons. Russia has 1,500 troops occupying the Moldovan breakaway territory of Transnistria and controls Moldova's energy supply. There is still a large pro-Russian constituency in Moldovan politics, business and society.

But the invasion of Ukraine has changed everything in geopolitics, especially for Ukraine's neighbors who now see that "neutrality" does not protect a small country from being viciously attacked on Putin's whim. The Moldovan government has condemned the Russian invasion, even though Putin's retaliation could prove disastrous.

"Moldova is a neutral state, but neutrality only refers to us not participating in military action," Popescu told me. "We're not neutral when it comes to condemning the aggression. We're not neutral when it comes to defending the principles of international law, which must be respected."

The United States and European countries have been paying more attention to Moldova recently. Secretary of State Antony Blinken visited the capital, Chisinau, last month. The United States has given Moldova \$130 million since the Ukraine war started to help with the hundreds of thousands of new refugees spilling over the border.

But that's just a Band-Aid for Moldova's problems.

"We need to ensure socioeconomic stability. We are severely impacted by the war. We are Ukraine's most fragile neighbor," Popescu said. "We've been coping reasonably well with the humanitarian crisis, the refugee situation and the energy crisis. We've been pursuing reforms. But, it's a difficult region."

The question is whether the West's recent increased attention to Moldova will persist beyond the current crisis. Popescu's visit was framed as a new "strategic dialogue" with the United States, but a similar effort during the Obama administration withered away.

There are several specific things the United States could do to cement its commitment to Moldova's long-term stability and success. The Justice Department could do more to go after Moldova's sanctioned oligarchs and their wealth, especially the ones living in the United States. U.S. organizations should double down on helping Moldova continue its reforms and root out corruption. And the United States can help Moldova diversify its energy supply, diluting Putin's leverage.

And while Moldova isn't seeking military assistance, it has a huge and growing need for help fortifying and managing its borders, including the 863 miles it shares with Ukraine. That's perhaps the most urgent effort, because if Ukraine falls, Moldova could easily be Russia's next target. Would Putin actually invade Moldova and try to topple the prowestern government, as he is attempting to do next door?

"We don't know," Popescu told me. "Our task is to be ready for everything."

In conclusion, I am grateful for the committed service of Mr. Eugen Caras, Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova to the United States of America and United Mexican States.

We stand together to deter war criminal Putin with the courageous people of Ukraine led by President Zelenskyy who has adopted the spirit of the American Revolution "Don't tread on me", "Live Free or Die."

The unity of freedom-loving countries was reinforced by President Salome Zourabichvili of Georgia who I am grateful to meet with today. He has courageously cited that the people of Georgia are 100 percent united in "solidarity with Ukraine."

RECOGNIZING EILEEN RHODES  
FOR FORTY YEARS OF OUT-  
STANDING SERVICE TO THE  
BRUCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPART-  
MENT, AND THE GREAT STATE  
OF MICHIGAN

**HON. LISA C. McCLAIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2022*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eileen Rhodes for forty plus years of outstanding service to the Bruce Township Fire Department, and the great state of Michigan.

Eileen has spent more than four decades admirably serving the Romeo/Bruce community. She is a proud graduate of Romeo High School. Eileen started her career as a Bruce Township Firefighter/EMT in the early 80s at a time when few women shared her vision. She